

HOWARD COLLEGE
LIBRARY

MINUTES

—Of the—

THIRD ANNUAL SESSION

—Of the—

Gulf Coast

Howard College Library

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

—HELD WITH THE—

COLISEUM PLACE BAPTIST CHURCH,

NEW ORLEANS, APRIL 23-24, 1880.

Howard College Library

OFFICERS:

J. O'B. LOWRY, Moderator, New Orleans, La.

M. B. RICHMOND, Clerk, Scranton, Miss.

W. S. WILSON, Treasurer, New Orleans, La.

PASCAGOULA, MISS.

DEMOCRAT-STAR JOB PRINTING OFFICE.

1880.

FIRST DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

NEW ORLEANS, LA., April 23, 1880.

Morning Session.

At 11 o'clock a.m. the Gulf Coast Baptist Association was called to order in the Coliseum Place Baptist church by Moderator J. O'B. Lowry. Prayer was offered by Bro. T. J. Walne.

The church letters were called for and read. The following is the list of churches represented and messengers present:

CHURCHES AND MESSENGERS.

BETHENY—J. E. Thigpen.
BILOXI—George B. Elder.
BROAD STREET—J. C. Wright.
COLISEUM PLACE—J. O'B. Lowry, W. H. Tucker, J. R. Juden, W. S. Wilson, D. B. King, W. M. Burruss, R. G. T. Shepherd.
FIRST CHURCH—M. C. Cole, J. P. Lehde, J. E. Randolph, J. S. Furman.
HANDSBORO—W. R. Washington, S. Taylor.
OCEAN SPRINGS—By letter.
MOSS POINT—R. N. Hall.
PALMETTO STREET—By letter.
SCRANTON—M. B. Richmond.
ST. FRANCIS STREET—By letter.

At the conclusion of reading the letters, Bro. Lowry read a chapter and Bro. W. S. Webb led in prayer.

Upon motion proceeded to the election of officers, with the following result:

Moderator—Bro. J. O'B. Lowry.

Clerk—Bro. M. B. Richmond.

Treasurer—Bro. W. S. Wilson.

The Moderator called for the report of the committee appointed at last meeting on Admission of Women as Messengers to the Association.

The committee was not ready to report. Upon motion the committee was discharged.

VISITING BRETHREN.

Visiting brethren present were, upon motion, invited to seats within the Association. The following ministers were present and participated in the deliberations of the meeting: Bro. W. S. Webb, Presi-

dent Mississippi College; Bro. T. J. Walne, Corresponding Secretary of the State Mission Board of Mississippi Baptist Convention; W. H. Robert, General Evangelist and Theological Instructor of Freedmen.

Bro. Cole moved that the Bro. Moderator appoint a Committee on Religious Exercises. Adopted. The following were appointed: Breth. M. C. Cole, R. G. T. Shepherd, J. E. Randolph, S. Taylor, and by motion, J. O'B. Lowry. After retiring for a few minutes the committee reported as follows: Bro. Webb to preach at 8 o'clock to-night, followed by Bro. Walne in the interest of State missions. The committee deferred the other appointments until to-morrow.

Upon motion the Moderator appointed a Committee on Order of Exercises as follows: Breth. Cole, Tucker, Elder and F. C. Gregory.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ORDER OF EXERCISES.

The committee made the following report, which was adopted: The Association will hold its sessions from 9 a.m. to 12 m.; from 2 to 4 p.m.; from 8 to 10 p.m.

On motion adjourned to meet at 2 p.m. Prayer by Bro. Hall.

Afternoon Session.

COLISEUM PLACE CHURCH, 2 P. M.

Met at 2 p.m. Sang hymn No. 31 in Gospel Hymn Book. Prayer by Bro. Wright, who read Psalms cxxxii, and made a few remarks thereon. Prayer by Bro. Robert.

Bro. Moderator took the chair and called for the report on Association Missions. The report was read by Bro. Tucker, received, and made special order for to-night.

Report of Committee on Sunday-Schools called for. The committee not being ready, on motion further time was granted.

Report of Committee on Foreign Missions was called for. The committee asked for further time, which was granted till to-morrow at 9 o'clock a.m.

Report of Committee on Home Missions was called for. In the absence of the chairman, Bro. Z. A. Owens, the clerk read the report. After discussion thereon by Breth. Lowry, Webb, Walne and Hall, the report was adopted. [See Appendix A.]

Report of Committee on Bible and Colportage Work was called for. Not being ready to report, further time was granted.

Report of Committee on Relations to the Colored People called for. Committee reported nothing had been done. Bro. Robert spoke on the subject, after which the report was adopted.

It was moved that 9:30 a.m. to-morrow, be set apart for the discussion of Foreign Missions. Adopted.

Moved that the Moderator appoint the standing committees. Adopted.

The treasurer being absent, it was moved that the clerk make a report of monies received and disbursed during the past Associational year. Adopted.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

1879.

DEBITS.

June 14,	To amount from Finance Committee.....	\$36 50
	To cash from Bethany church for minutes.....	2 00
	To cash from Broad street church.....	10 00
	To cash from Bay St. Louis church.....	1 00
	To cash from Moss Point church.....	2 50
	To cash collected by Bro. Hamberlin.....	17 00
	To cash collected for Foreign Missions on 13th.....	5 25
	To cash for Foreign Mission Journal.....	2 50—\$76 75

1879.

CREDITS.

June 14,	By amount paid Bro. Hamberlin for Missionary services, (Voucher No. 1).....	\$30 50
	By amount sent Bro. H. A. Tupper for Foreign Missions, (Voucher No. 2).....	5 25
	By amount sent for Foreign Mission Journal, (Voucher No. 3).....	2 50
	By amount paid for printing minutes, (Voucher No. 4).....	25 00
	By amount paid clerk for services.....	13 50—\$76 75

M. B. RICHMOND, Clerk.

Moved that a Committee on Time and Place be appointed. Adopted.
The following were appointed: Breth. Tucker, Thigpen and Juden.

Moved that messengers be appointed to represent this Association
in other bodies. Adopted. The following were appointed:

Mississippi State Convention—Breth. Hall, Tucker and Cole.

Southern Baptist Convention—Bro. J. N. Beadles.

On motion the Moderator announced the following Finance Committee: Breth. Juden, Washington and Elder.

The Moderator announced the following

STANDING COMMITTEES:

Association Missions—Breth. M. C. Cole, C. W. Wood and M. A. Dees.

Sunday-Schools—Breth. W. H. Tucker, F. C. Gregory and S. Taylor.

Foreign Missions—Breth. J. E. Thigpen, J. R. Juden and G. B. Elder.

Home Missions—Breth. R. N. Hall, W. R. Washington and W. S. Wilson.

Bible and Colportage Work—Breth. J. C. Wright, J. D. Randolph and R. G. T. Shepherd.

Relations to Colored People—Breth. C. M. Liddle, M. B. Richmond and Sherwood Bradford.

On motion adjourned to meet at 8 p.m. Prayer by Bro. Hall.

Evening Session.

The Association was called to order at 8 p.m.

Bro. W. S. Webb preached from 2d Cor. v. first part 14th verse: "For the love of Christ constraineth us." His sermon was well delivered in a clear and forcible manner, and was attentively listened to by the congregation.

At the conclusion of Bro. Webb's sermon, Bro. Walne addressed the congregation on the subject of Association Missions, and stated that as he had recently called on the churches in the city for a contribution he would not take up a collection.

The Moderator took the chair and the report of the Committee on Association Missions was adopted. [See Appendix B.]

Adjourned to meet at 9 a.m. to-morrow.

SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

COLISEUM PLACE CHURCH, April 24, 1880.

At 9 a.m. the Association was called to order by Bro. Thigpen, who led in devotional exercises for half an hour.

The Moderator took the chair at 9:30 a.m., when the proceedings of yesterday were read by the clerk, corrected and adopted.

The Finance Committee submitted their report as follows, which was adopted.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

To the Gulf Coast Association:

BRETHREN—Your Committee on Finance report the receipt of the following moneys:

For Associational purposes.....	\$44 00
From Scranton Sunday-school for Foreign Missions.....	1 50
From Scranton Sunday-school for Home Missions.....	1 50
From Ladies' Aid Society of Handboro church for State Missions.....	8 00

Total.....\$55 00

Respectfully submitted, J. R. JUDEN, Chairman.

Committee on Foreign Missions submitted their report. After being discussed by Breth. Webb, Wright, Thigpen, Lowry, Hall, Cole and Robert, Bro. Hall offered an amendment, which was adopted. The report as amended was then adopted. [See Appendix C.]

By permission Bro. W. S. Webb made a few remarks in the interest of Mississippi College, and urged the brethren to use their influence for this excellent educational enterprise.

The report of Committee on Sunday-Schools was read and adopted. [See Appendix D.]

Report of the Committee on Time, Place and Sermon, was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TIME, PLACE AND SERMON.

Your committee respectfully recommend that the Association meet on Friday before the fourth Sabbath in April, 1881, with the Scranton Baptist church, and that Eld. M. C. Cole preach the introductory sermon, with Eld. J. E. Thigpen as alternate.

Respectfully submitted, W. H. TUCKER, Chairman.

Committee on Religious Exercises reported as follows, which was adopted:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RELIGIOUS EXERCISES.

SUNDAY APPOINTMENTS.

First Baptist Church—11 a.m., R. N. Hall; 7:30 p.m., J. E. Thigpen.

Coliseum Place Church—11 a.m., J. C. Wright; 7:30 p.m., the pastor.

Napoleon Avenue Mission—4 p.m., R. N. Hall.

RESOLUTIONS.

By Bro. Richmond—

Resolved, That the thanks of the Gulf Coast Baptist Association are hereby tendered the brethren of Coliseum Place church, and to those citizens of New Orleans who so kindly received and entertained the messengers while in their midst. Adopted.

By Bro. Wright—

Resolved, That this Association tender thanks to all railroad lines and steamboats that have extended the usual courtesies to the messengers of this Association in the way of reduced fare to and from this meeting. Adopted.

The Palmetto street, Broad street and St. Francis street churches, of Mobile, and Bethany church, of Whistler, Ala., asked for letters of

dismissal from us to join an Alabama Association. On motion the request was granted, and the clerk instructed to forward these churches letters of dismissal.

By Bro. Hall—

Resolved, That the clerk be authorized to have the minutes printed, and the balance on hand, contributed for Associational purposes, after paying for the minutes, be given him for services. Adopted.

On motion adjourned to meet at time and place appointed.

Sang Hymn No. 114. Benediction by Bro. Webb.

APPENDIX.

[A.]

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON HOME MISSIONS.

Dear Brethren of the Gulf Coast Association:

Your committee to report on Home Missions at this session of the Association regret that the report must necessarily be unsatisfactory from the fact that we have not had access to the annual report of the Home Mission Board.

Since the last report of the Home Board the work has been enlarged in the Indian field and in the home field also. Bro. J. B. Hartwell has been sent to the Chinese in California, by whom he has been most cordially received, especially by the Christians among them. Already the Lord is beginning to bless his labors there, and he has baptised one or more converts.

It is expected this year to establish a Manual Labor School in the Creek Nation for fifty boys and fifty girls, and already about \$10,000 have been secured to erect buildings, etc.

The Home Board has done a good and great work. Let us be more liberal and prayerful. Respectfully, Z. A. OWENS, Chairman.

[B.]

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ASSOCIATION MISSIONS.

The Gulf Coast Association is pre-eminently a missionary body, and yet such is the condition of the churches here represented that it is not deemed advisable to undertake any mission work as peculiarly our own, hence we have pursued the policy of simply co-operating with the work undertaken in our territory by older and stronger bodies. It is therefore the province of your committee simply to make a brief record of the state of the work to appear on the minutes for future reference.

The large and inviting field on the gulf coast has yielded precious fruits under the labors of our Brother Hamberlin, and the churches organized by him afford us abundant encouragement to hope for large results to be developed in the near future. The work in this part of the field, however, has suffered much from the lack of a missionary since the removal of Bro. Hamberlin, and hence has not prospered as well in the last as in previous associational years. The services of Eld. R. N. Hall has been secured for a part of this field, and we thank God for this accession to our working force, and we earnestly hope that a suitable man will soon be secured to undertake the care of the still unoccupied part of this field.

The State Mission Board of the Mississippi Baptist State Convention has entered hopefully upon the work in the city of New Orleans. The First Baptist Church is aided by the Board in sustaining Pastor Cole, thus enabling him to devote all his time and energies to the development of the church and the winning of souls to Christ, and it affords us great satisfaction to record the success of his labors in the steady spiritual growth of the church and frequent accessions by baptism.

The Board has also employed Eld. Tucker to do a general missionary work in the city. He, aided by the churches in the city, has rented a school-room on Napoleon avenue, and gathered an interesting Sunday-school, which promises to become one of the most important interests of this kind in the city. At the same place the missionary holds a prayer-meeting on Tuesday nights, and preaches on Sunday nights to a small congregation. This interest is in its infancy, but needs only to be patiently and prayerfully fostered to become a fruitful field and yield a glorious harvest. The field is large and difficult, and the laborers few indeed; "pray, ye, therefore, that the Lord of the harvest may send forth" other laborers.

In conclusion, permit us to say that the churches of this Association ought to aid in this work of missions by their prayers and liberal contributions. God has given us the most important missionary field on the Continent, and we may well count it an honor to share in the great work of holding forth a pure gospel for the salvation of the vast multitudes about us. Respectfully submitted,

W. H. TUCKER,

M. C. COLE,

Committee.

[C.]

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

In the absence of the chairman and the other members of your committee on Foreign Missions, I beg leave to submit the following in lieu of the report which you have a right to expect from this committee.

God's love, as expressed in Christ's mission to and His work for man, gives us the only standard by which the character and area of missionary operations may be gauged.

Jesus was the first Foreign as well as first Home Missionary. But for the foreign nature of His mission none would have known of the salvation of God, and but for its home nature it could not have been domiciled anywhere.

Homeless Himself, Christ made a home for His mission in living, loving hearts, and through and by these, ever since, His home and foreign missionary efforts have been carried forward.

The success of missionary work was at the start guaranteed by the wisdom of this plan, which allows its wondrous vitality full play.

Born and cradled in obscurity, its beacon light is now blazing in every part of the habitable world. The profoundest minds everywhere since Christ came have found abundant food for reflection in the chronicles of missionary operations.

No peril, no toil, no suffering daunt the true herald of the Cross. He finds his highest exaltation in self-abnegation and humiliation. Strong in his weakness, rich in his poverty, lofty in his purpose, assured of victory, he cries, "The world for Christ," as he presses the battle to the gates of death and hell.

Every believer in the Lord Jesus, by virtue of his relation to Him, is pledged to promote missions in all parts of the world. Failure to meet this obligation squarely and fully is the *sin* which lies at the door of many believers in this Association.

No one of us may urge the plea of ignorance as to methods, opportunity or ability.

As long as there is a man or woman in all the world unsaved we may not relax our efforts nor withhold from this work men, women, prayers, affections, time or money.

The faithful believer is crowned and rewarded at the end. How many of us will be entitled to even a penny when the Master pays the vineyard laborers?

I am not able to furnish the amounts given by the churches of this Association during the past year for foreign missions. It should, however, be our purpose year by year, to do more and more for the development and maintenance of this God-given work. Let our prayer be: "God, so burden the hearts of thy children for the salvation of souls abroad and at home that the full measure of devotion and sacrifice legitimately expected from each member of the churches of this Association shall be reached."

J. E. RANDOLPH,

For the Committee on Foreign Missions.

AMENDMENT BY BRO. HALL.

Resolved, That each pastor in the bounds of our Association be requested to preach, at some time during the Associational year, a sermon especially designed to attract the attention of his people to the object of foreign missions, and then take up a public collection for the same and report in the church letter the result, and that he use every effort to put the Foreign Mission Journal in every family.

[D.]

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

The committee is unable to furnish many details as to the work accomplished by the Sunday-schools of this Association during the past twelve months. The statistical table, as far as reported, shows about the same as that of last year.

It is encouraging to notice in the report from one school on the coast the fact that, although struggling against many difficulties, it has not only been self-sustaining, but has organized and supports a mission school located some distance away, a development of the missionary spirit that will surely "bring forth good fruit."

We are glad to add to the statistics a mission school, lately organized, located on Napoleon avenue in the city of New Orleans, under charge of Elder W. H. Tucker, who is in the employ of the Home Mission Board of the Mississippi Baptist State Convention.

The spread of the "Glad Tidings," the Gospel of our Lord, must be mainly done in this country through the instrumentality of the Sunday-school, and we would urge a greater attention to this branch of "our work" on the part of the members of this Association.

Respectfully submitted,

F. C. GREGORY, for the Committee.

FINANCIAL.

CHURCHES.	Associational Purposes.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Miscellaneo- us.	Gulf Coast Association.	Total.
Bethany.....	\$ 2 50	\$ 3 85	\$ 12 40	\$ 370 41	\$.....	\$ 389 16
Biloxi.....	3 00	.....	2 65	36 25	7 35	46 25
Broad Street.....	5 00	.....	.....	740 55	5 00	750 55
Coliseum.....	5 00	.....	100 00	3,097 25	70 55	3,272 80
First Church.....	.....	25 30	116 80	1,037 30	.....	1,179 40
Handsboro.....	11 50	2 40	.....	101 45	8 00	123 35
Moss Point.....	5 00	.....	.....	215 00	10 00	230 00
Ocean Springs.....	2 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 50
Palmetto Street.....	2 00	25 00	25 00	1,720 20	.....	1,772 20
Seranton.....	2 50	1 50	1 50	85 00	.....	90 50
St. Francis Street.....	5 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	5 00
Grand Totals.....	\$44 00	\$58 05	\$262 35	\$7,403 41	\$ 100 90	\$7,861 71

Sunday-School Statistics for Twelve Months Ending April 1, 1880.

GULF COAST

NAMES.	LOCATION.	SUPERINTENDENTS.	Officers and teachers.	Scholars.	Average attendance.	Largest attendance.	Smallest attendance.	No. of conversions.	Amount of collections.	Amount given to missions.	Am't for expenses of S. S.	Books in library.	No. copies of Papers Taken.				
													Baptist Teacher.	Kind Words.	Our Little Ones.	Other papers.	Lesson Leaves.
Bay St. Louis.....	Bay St. Louis, Miss..	No school.		130	78	118	20	\$ 45 10	\$ 6 40	\$ 38 70			10	50			
Ethany.....	Whistler, Ala.....	R. H. Briggs.....	16	16												41	
Broad Street.....	Mobile, Ala.....																
Brook Cedroz.....	Fish River, Ala.....																
Biloxi.....	Biloxi, Miss.....	J. F. Crouk.....	7	25	20	24	6							10			20
Coliseum Place.....	New Orleans, La.....	R. H. Browne.....	10	250	116	236	56	2	68 03		68 03	500	20				150
First Church.....	New Orleans, La.....	F. C. Gregory.....	15	125	82	126	36	2	90 80	11 70	79 10						135
Friendship.....	Dog River, Ala.....																
Handsboro.....	Handsboro, Miss.....	J. T. Liddle.....	12	65	41	56	30		33 15		33 15	200	15			35	35
Moss Point.....	Moss Point, Miss.....	M. A. Dees.....	8	55	35	63	8										
Ocean Springs.....	Ocean Springs, Miss..																
Palmetto Street.....	Mobile, Ala.....	G. A. Pearce.....	18	160	95	125	53	2	74 37		74 37		18		50		140
Seranton.....	Seranton, Miss.....	M. B. Richmond.....	9	55	69	1	3		63 40	2 50	61 40		1	50		75	
St. Francis street.....	Mobile, Ala.....																
Union.....	Mobile county, Ala..																
N. O. Mission.....	New Orleans, La.....	Eld. W. H. Tucker..	6	44	35	50	25		2 60		2 60						
			101	857				9	\$377 45	\$20 60	\$357 35	700	49	125	50	151	470

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	When consti- tuted.	LOCATION.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	CLERK'S P. O.	SABBATH OF WORSHIP.	Advs., Diminutions.							
							Baptism.	Letter.	Restored.	Letter.	Excluded.	Death.	Erasure.	Total Mem- bership.
Bay St. Louis	1877	Bay St. Louis, Miss.	Not represented	A. J. Whitfield.	Bay St. Louis, Miss.	Every.	9	6	3	1	2	1	2	135
Bethany.	1878	Whistler, Ala.	J. E. Thigpen	R. H. Briggs	Whistler, Ala.	Every.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	23
Biloxi.	1875	Biloxi, Miss.	None	G. B. Elder	Biloxi, Miss.	Every.	7	13	8	5	2	1	2	146
Broad Street.	1856	Mobile, Ala.	J. C. Wright	W. S. Lott	Mobile, Ala.	Every.	5	11	3	4	3	3	3	242
Coliseum	1852	New Orleans, La.	J. O'B. Lowry	R. G. T. Shepherd	New Orleans, La.	Every.	16	2	1	4	2	1	1	131
First Church	1874	New Orleans, La.	M. C. Cole	J. F. Randolph	New Orleans, La.	Every.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	35
Handsboro	1874	Handshore, Miss.	None	Samuel Taylor	Handshore, Miss.	2d and 4th.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	43
Mandeville	1878	Mandeville, La.	Not represented	M. J. Sharp	Mandeville, La.	1st and 4th.	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	31
Moss Point.	1874	Moss Point, Miss.	R. N. Hall	E. Sandiford	Moss Point, Miss.	First.	2	4	1	1	1	1	1	155
Ocean Springs	1872	Ocean Springs, Miss.	R. N. Hall	S. Bradford	Ocean Springs, Miss.	Every.	3	6	2	2	2	2	2	99
Palmetto St.	1872	Mobile, Ala.	Z. A. Owens	O. W. Couch	Mobile, Ala.	1st and 4th	4	5	1	1	1	1	1	335
Scranton	1877	Scranton, Miss.	R. N. Hall	M. B. Richmond	Scranton, Miss.	Every.	7	3	2	2	2	2	2	335
St. Francis St	1845	Mobile, Ala.	Geo. B. Eager	W. E. Brown	Mobile, Ala.	Every.	4	5	1	1	1	1	1	335
Union	1869	Mobile County, Ala.	Not represented	Noel Turner	Grand Bay, Ala.	First.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	335
Totals.....							4144	840	1917	451	1335	1335	1335	1335

CONSTITUTION.

Article 1. This Association shall be called the Gulf Coast Baptist Association.

Art. 2. This Association shall be composed of duly authorized delegates from Baptist churches of Christ which contribute annually something for missionary purposes; each church reserving the right to affiliate with the Conventions of its choice.

Art. 3. Each church composed of fifty members or less shall be entitled to two delegates, and to one additional delegate for every twenty-five members above fifty.

Art. 4. The object of this Association shall be the co-operation of the churches in missionary and other christian labor.

Art. 5. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, elected annually by ballot.

Art. 6. This Association shall meet annually at such time and place as may be agreed upon.

Art. 7. This constitution may be altered or amended at any meeting of the Association by a vote of three-fourths of the delegates present.

RULES OF ORDER.

1. The Association shall be opened with devotional exercises.

2. The Moderator shall be entitled to speak, provided he calls a member to the chair.

3. Any member excepting to the decision of the chair may appeal to the body.

4. Only one member shall speak at a time, rising and addressing the Moderator.

5. No member shall speak more than twice upon the same subject, without permission from the Association.

6. When a resolution is before the body no motion shall be received except to adjourn, to lay on the table, to amend, or to postpone; which several motions shall have precedence in the order indicated.

7. All questions not otherwise provided for shall be decided by a majority.

8. These rules may be altered or amended at any annual meeting by a majority vote.